

CLAIMS:

1. A method for producing a coated thermoplastic film, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) passing a substrate thermoplastic film having a first and second surface through a nip between a first and second rollers, wherein the first roller is covered by a smooth, low friction material which textures the first surface of said substrate and the second roller is metallic and polishes the second surface of said substrate;

(b) applying a curable coating composition to the first surface of the substrate, and

(c) curing the coating composition to produce a smooth coating upon the first surface of the substrate.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said coating composition comprises:

(a) more than 75% weight percent of a brominated epoxy acrylate mixed with an acrylate monomer.

(b) less than 5% by weight percent of a photoinitiator.

(c) less than 20% by weight percent of a silicone.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said thermoplastic resin substrate is an aromatic polycarbonate resin substrate.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein said smooth material covering said first roller is polytetrafluoroethylene.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein said first roller has an Ra less than 0.8 μm .

6. A method according to claim 1, wherein said second roller is a chrome-plated steel roll.

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7. A method for producing thermoplastic articles having smooth upper and lower surfaces, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) passing a substrate thermoplastic film having a first and second surface through a nip between a first and second rollers, wherein the first roller is covered by a smooth, low friction material which textures a first surface of said substrate and the second roller is metallic and polishes a surface of said article;

(b) coating the first surface with a curable coating composition;

(c) curing the coating composition to produce a coated film having smooth surfaces, and

(d) thereafter cutting the coated film into a plurality of said thermoplastic articles.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said coating composition comprises:

(a) more than 75% weight percent of an brominated epoxy acrylate mixed with an acrylate monomer.

(b) less than 5% weight percent of a photoinitiator.

(c) less than 20% weight percent of a silicone.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein said substrate thermoplastic film comprises a cured aromatic polycarbonate resin.

10. A method according to claim 7, wherein said smooth, low friction material is polytetrafluoroethylene.

11. A method according to claim 10, wherein said first roller has an Ra less than 0.8 μm .

12. A method according to claim 7, wherein said second roller is a chrome-plated steel roll.

13. A method according to claim 7, wherein said coated film has a birefringence of less than 25 mn.

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14. A coated film which comprises:

(a) a low stress substrate having a first polished side and a second textured side; and

(b) a curable coating cured over the second textured side, wherein the coated film has a birefringence of less than 25 nm and the low stress substrate and the curable coating differ in their indices of refraction by less than 0.08.

15. A method for preparing a coated film which comprises:

(a) forming a low stress substrate thermoplastic film having a first polished side and a second textured side by passing extruded resin through a nip between: (a) a first roller having sufficiently low friction with the thermoplastic film such that some slippage may occur between said first roller and said substrate; and (b) a second metallic roller; and

(b) curing a curable coating over the second textured side; wherein the substrate and curable coating are selected to have a difference in their indices of refraction of less than 0.08.

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